

the meeting, in the "truth or error" of the revolution in
sublime ferment here, feeling & in suspense. But perhaps you may
think my views of facts are tinged by the misleading theory which
look at them. It may be so; though I don't think it is.
I had not forgotten you
for a letter after the
decade, but till now I have
been so absorbed with duties
which could not be postponed,
that attention to anything else
has been impossible. And
now I only get because ex-
cess of occupation for the four
or five weeks ^{past} has brought on a
reaction & I am at home
nursing a splitting head-
ache.
But I want you to know
what a splendid - in every way
admirable meeting we have
[1863]

had and so I ignore my head-ache. Yes, the
meeting has passed, and exceeded my highest hopes.
Phillips' absence was at first a damper upon
us, but when we got fairly started we ceased
to miss him. Such an array of speakers we
had never had at any previous gathering. All
the veterans were on the platform - except Phillips
& Oldbury. There to find opportunity was for each
one to be heard was the difficulty; a difficulty
which we did not succeed in getting.
Some who would seem to have had a prescription

right - to be heard were restrained
and I am pleased to add, were
content, to keep silent. Stephen &
Abby were themselves, of course,
but they were themselves after
their best fashion. There was a
thrust in the meeting - a heart-
ening thrust that softened and
renewed all asperities. It had
a holy festival; a feast-y-fest
thing. No meeting that I ever
attended of the kind - since its
origin 30 years ago, has ^{been} equal
to it.

Then the audience was all that
one could desire. The immense
& beautiful hall was crowded. In
the day time it was filled, and
in the evening it was crowded.
Men & women, black
& white, radical & conservative
were listened to with no demon-
strations save of approval. The

strongest things that were said were the most eloquent
roundly applauded. Fred Douglass, who I fancy has never
spoken so well since he left our boards, demanded of
a packed & crammed audience, all the rights of citizenship
for his race - supplying the right to vote
and he voted for; and adding that he was now a
candidate himself! The back parts of the house - the
most hostile - were the loudest in
their expressions of approval. During the whole
time of the meetings, commencing with Garrison's first speech
on Wednesday evening & ending at 3 o'clock on Saturday,
not an audible whisper of dissent or disapproval was,
to the best of my knowledge, heard anywhere; either at
the meetings, in the streets or elsewhere. The revolution in